

major accomplishment, the Nighthawks proved that the second time is as sweet as the first.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, on January 31, 2012, I was absent from the House and missed rollcall vote 12.

Had I been present for rollcall 12, on agreeing to H. Res. 522, providing for consideration of H.R. 1173, a measure to repeal the CLASS program, I would have voted "no."

CONGRATULATING MARION GRAY

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2012

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Marion Gray on being named Knight of the Legion of Honor by France. In the course of his service in World War II Marion Gray became the first Franklin County man to be wounded on the beaches of Normandy on D-Day.

Throughout our nation's history, courageous men and women have selflessly fought time and again to secure our liberty. Marion Gray is one of those courageous men.

A true patriot, Sergeant Gray enlisted one day after the attack on Pearl Harbor. Gray then was sent to Camp Roberts to learn Combat Intelligence. He later transferred into the Medical Corps which allowed him to serve his country with the education in pharmacology and pre-medicine that he gained at The Ohio State University.

As a combat medic, Sergeant Gray travelled as part of the 29th Division of the 116th Regiment to the beaches of Normandy, where he was part of the first wave to land on D-Day.

Sergeant Gray's regiment was one of the hardest hit and during the course of that day Gray was injured twice. Thankfully, he survived but had to spend 30 days recovering in a hospital in South Hampton, England before being returned to his original company. He later went on to help liberate St. Lo, France, and served admirably until the end of the war in Europe.

It is because of the sacrifices made by Marion Gray and those he served with, that we continue to enjoy the freedoms that we do today. I am deeply thankful for Sergeant Marion Gray's heroism and sacrifice, and I congratulate him on earning the Knight of the Legion of Honor.

HONORING MORTIMER SULLIVAN

HON. KATHLEEN C. HOCHUL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2012

Ms. HOCHUL. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas: Mortimer Sullivan is a resident of Erie County and is married to Maryanne Calella. They are the proud parents of two children, Mark and Michael; and

Whereas: In 1954, Mortimer graduated from the University of Buffalo where he earned a degree in Psychology and completed Western New York's first college-accredited certificate-granting law enforcement training program. He also was the first commander of the University's Air Force ROTC Corps of Cadets; and

Whereas: After graduating from College he reported to active duty in the Air Force, and later served in the Air Force Office of Special Investigations Mobilization Reserve Program from which he retired in 1987; and

Whereas: Colonel Mortimer Sullivan earned the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Army and Air Force Commendation medals, and the New York State Conspicuous Service Cross during his service; and

Whereas: Mr. Sullivan was admitted to the New York State Bar in 1964; and

Whereas: Rising to the rank of Lieutenant, Mortimer is a founding charter member of the Erie County Sheriffs Scientific Reserve with 40 years of service; and

Whereas: For 25 years, Mortimer Sullivan chaired the Episcopal Diocese of Western New York Committee on Constitutions and Cannons and received the Bishop's Award for Ministry of the Laity; and be it further

Resolved, That we pause in our deliberations to honor Mortimer Sullivan for his dedication and service to the Erie County Sheriff's Department and our community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF FORMER PENNSYLVANIA STATE REP. TERRY VAN HORNE

HON. MARK S. CRITZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2012

Mr. CRITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of a selfless community leader, accomplished lawmaker and skilled statesman. Former Pennsylvania state representative Terry Van Horne died on Monday, January 30, 2012, at the age of 65. Terry was a gentleman who used his talents as a legislator to enhance the lives of the people of the Allegheny-Kiski Valley. He was known as an independent-minded public servant who never allowed partisan politics to stand in the way of doing what was best for his constituents. Terry's unwillingness to compromise his core convictions for the sake of political expediency gained him the love of his constituents and the respect of his colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

Terry began his principled and distinguished career in public service on the Arnold City Council in the late 1970's. From there, he went on to represent Pennsylvania's 54th House District for nearly 20 years. By all accounts, he was a dynamic, yet congenial legislator who could defuse even the bitterest of political scuffles with his quick wit and radiant smile. After leaving office in 2000, he worked as a consultant and practiced law before returning to public service in 2007 to serve as

municipal manager for Penn Hills, Pennsylvania, a position he held until February of 2009. Just this past December, Terry was hired by the Arnold Council to be its new city clerk.

While tragedy cut his life short, Terry will be remembered not for how he died, but for how he lived—as a steadfast champion of the people.

Mr. Speaker, who can explain why great men like Terry are taken from us prematurely? The reality that Terry will no longer be able to pursue his life's passion of public service is truly a tragedy for everyone who calls the Alle-Kiski Valley home. I hope that his wife, Jacqueline, and all of his family and friends find comfort in knowing that Terry's legacy will continue to inspire generations of public servants to come.

IN CELEBRATION OF MARY CLARE HIGGINS

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2012

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the accomplishments of former Mayor of Northampton, Massachusetts, Mary Clare Higgins. Born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and raised in Brooklyn, New York, Mary Clare Higgins was the eldest girl among her six siblings. Mayor Higgins later settled in Northampton in the late 1970s where she followed in the footsteps of her father and became involved in local politics.

Ms. Higgins' first involvement in local government came in 1990 when she was appointed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to the Massachusetts Housing Authority. Distinguishing herself through her various roles in municipal government, Ms. Higgins was first elected to the Northampton City Council in 1994 and later as president of the council in 1998. Since her election as mayor in 2000, Ms. Higgins has dually served as President of the Massachusetts Mayors' Association and was a member of the Municipal Finance Task Force of Metro Mayors Coalition.

During her tenure as mayor, Ms. Higgins has served as an advocate for the preservation and expansion of Northampton in the twenty-first century. With her initiative for growth within the community, Mayor Higgins saw promise in the development of Hospital Hill and the ongoing preservation of open space throughout the city. Her accomplishments as mayor have been recognized by a number of local, statewide, and nationwide organizations for her distinguished service.

Mary Clare Higgins has been an important part of the history and the further advancement of Northampton in the years to come. She in her role as a civil servant has placed her responsibility as a municipal leader first. Her contributions to the well-being of those whom she had the privilege to represent for over a decade is a testimony of the quality of leadership Mayor Higgins has displayed. I am honored to have known Mary Clare Higgins and I offer her my warmest regards and wishes for her future endeavors.